

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/017,688

Applicant(s)

PIGOTT ET AL.

Examiner

Lawrence B. Williams

Art Unit

2634

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 08 December 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-40.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The instant application discloses a system and methods for calibrating timing in a remote device to timing in a source device. A search of prior art records has failed to disclose a method comprising;

“receiving, during a second mode of operation, different from the first mode of operation, at the input of the first device, a first time reference signal from a second device; and correlating a timing event of the first time reference signal to an internal clock of the first device to determine a time base relative to a duration of time used to receive the first time reference signal” along with remaining limitations as disclosed in claim 1.

“receiving at the input, during a second mode of operation, a second signal of a second operational type, wherein the first operational type is different than the second operational type; and correlating a timing event received as part of the second signal to an internal clock of the first device to determine a time base relative to the first time reference signal” along with the remaining limitations as disclosed in claim 36.

Nor does the prior art teach a system comprising:

“an input node to provide a first time reference to an input port of a first remote device; the first remote device having; an input coupled to the output node of said source device to receive a standard signal in a first mode of operation and said first time reference in a second mode of operation; a counter to identify a number of clock cycles generated by an internal clock for a duration specified through said first time reference, during said second

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mode of operation; a control signal generator to determine a time base based on said number of clock cycles; an output node to provide to a target device a control signal based on said time base; said internal clock; and said target device having an input node coupled to the output node of said first remote device, said input node receiving said control signal and said target device performing a function based on said control signal” as disclosed in claim 19.

“a signal node to receive a standard signal in a first mode of operation and a time reference signal in a second mode of operation, wherein a completion of the time reference signal is used to initiate the first mode of operation; said counter to track a number of clock cycles generated by a local clock, said counter having: a reset node to initialize a count of the number of clock cycles; an enable node to receive a second enable signal to enable a counting of the clock cycles; an output node to provide a count of the number of clock cycles; a control signal generator to generate a control signal based on the count of the number of clock cycles, said control signal generator having an input node coupled to the output node of the counter to receive said count of the number of clock cycles, and said local clock to generate said clock cycles” as disclosed claim 33.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

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CONCLUSION

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lawrence B Williams whose telephone number is 571-272-3037. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00-5:00).


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kenneth Vanderpuye can be reached on 571-272-3078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Lawrence B. Williams

lbw

December 16, 2005


EMMANUEL BAYARD
PRIMARY EXAMINER